

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1 5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100 BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

February 2, 2018

The Honorable Senator Maggie Hassan United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hassan:

Thank you for your continued interest in the Coakley Landfill Superfund Site. We are keenly aware of the public's interests regarding this project and will continue to prioritize the necessary studies and keep the public apprised of our progress and findings. As you know, EPA issued a letter to the Coakley Landfill Group (CLG) on January 18, 2018, asking that the CLG initiate a bedrock investigation at the Site in order to further characterize the hydrogeology and groundwater conditions in the bedrock aquifer and to evaluate the potential for the migration of Site related contaminants.

Bedrock investigations of this nature are very complicated and require technical expertise and adequate design and planning that results in data of high quality and relevance. For this reason, EPA, in consultation with the NHDES, is committed to working closely with the CLG to move the study forward as quickly as possible. We have been in contact with the CLG following issuance of the request to determine a timeline for developing a Work Plan. The CLG and its consultants will need to fully understand and implement the significant technical details required of this investigation in order to gather meaningful data. EPA will continue to work with the CLG and its consultant to make sure all of the aspects of EPA's request are addressed adequately in the investigation work plan and then fully implemented in a timely manner.

EPA anticipates that this investigation, like many bedrock investigations of this nature, will be iterative and will rely on preliminary data to inform subsequent phases of the investigation. Some of the initial data and information EPA is expecting from the investigation includes an updated site-wide well inventory and map, updated mapping of the bedrock surface, an assessment of groundwater monitoring coverage in bedrock, and geophysical and sampling data from existing bedrock boreholes. Again, EPA will remain committed to making sure the investigation is appropriately developed and implemented, and the resulting data provided to the public as expeditiously as possible. We would hope to be able to share some initial findings by the end of this summer.

In the meantime, the current remedy being implemented at the Coakley Landfill Superfund Site continues to be protective of public health. To date, samples collected from over 80 private drinking water wells have been tested and none exceeded the EPA Public Health Advisory/ NHDES Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard for PFAS (70 parts per trillion (ppt)). EPA continues to work closely with the Legislative Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation, NHDES, the public and other stakeholders and will always provide relevant data and information as it becomes available. We will be scheduling another public meeting in the Seacoast area within the next two months to provide updated information and be available along with NHDES and CLG representatives to respond to questions and comments.

If you should have any questions regarding this matter, or require further information, do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Dapolito Dunn Regional Administrator

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